

May 2007

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED - DISSEMINATION

JUL 23 2007

Re: **CG Docket No. 03-123; TRS Fund - Drastic VRS Rate Cuts**

Dear Chairman Martin,
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, And Tate:

I am a hearing person and use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate with other deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other hearing and Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities - Improve service and technology so the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for functionally equivalent telecommunications services is met

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Signature

H. Weiss

Printed Name

HARRY WEISS

Address

6790-1900 Rd

City

DELTA

State

COLORADO

Zip

81416

Email

BugHeWeiss@YAHOO.COM

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John Drouillard
5309 Cartwright Avenue #8
North Hollywood, CA 91601
(818) 985-1879

May 31, 2007

Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
Re: CG Docket No. 03-123
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

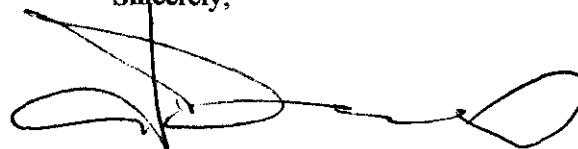
I am the parent of a 19-year-old deaf son who uses the Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate both to the hearing and deaf communities for every reason imaginable, just as you, I, and the rest of the hearing community use our home phones.

It's come to my attention that the FCC has a plan in place to make drastic cuts to the VRS rate, which will effectively cut the availability of the VRS service to the deaf. I find it odd that the FCC would be seeking out such a measure that would limit the number of deaf who can have access to the VRS instead of bolstering the VRS and making it accessible to even more in the deaf community. It is an invaluable tool to the deaf, a tremendous step above the TTY, and the community, as well as their extended families, would be immeasurably harmed by this forced regression in the way deaf are able to function in our country.

The VRS rate indeed should encourage the various VRS providers to serve more deaf, not less, and should not be turned into some sort of exclusionary device, turning the clock back significantly in the progress of the deaf community and their place in the world at large. A progressive attitude toward the VRS rate and the technology in general seems more than consistent with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Please stop these or any other proposed cuts to VRS programs and continue to honor the work and lives of our American deaf, their families, co-workers, and friends.

Sincerely,



John Drouillard

CC: Rep. Brad Sherman
Sen. Barbara Boxer
Sen. Diane Feinstein
Rep. Nancy Pelosi
Sen. Harry Reid

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RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

445 Twelfth Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

2007 JUN 18 P 2:15

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Heneé & Justin Cardell

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RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

2007 JUN 18 P 2:22

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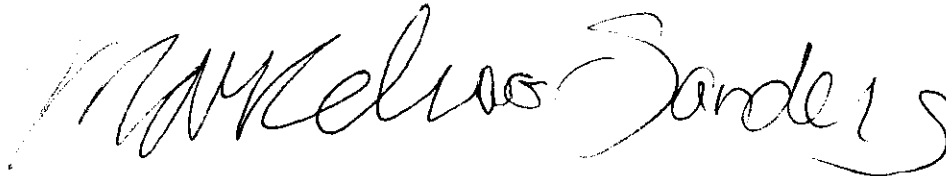
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Kelso Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.